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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

MARCH 1984

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

HOW IT WORKS -- WORKERS DISPLACED FROM THEIR JOBS BECAUSE OF INCREASED FOREIGN IMPORTS ARE HELPED TO BECOME EMPLOYED AGAIN BY THE TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE (TAA) PROGRAM. THE TAA PROGRAM PROVIDES WEEKLY CASH BENEFITS CALLED TRADE READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES (TRA), TRAINING, JOB SEARCH AND RELOCATION ALLOWANCES, AND OTHER REEMPLOYMENT SERVICES.

WORKERS ELIGIBLE FOR TAA MAY RECEIVE:

-- SPECIAL HELP IN FINDING A NEW JOB.

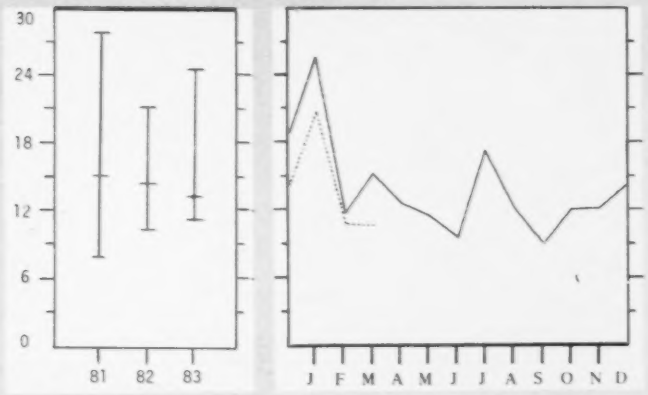
-- TRAINING IN A NEW SKILL IF SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT IS NOT OTHERWISE AVAILABLE. WHEN THE TRAINING FACILITY IS LOCATED BEYOND NORMAL COMMUTING DISTANCE, TRANSPORTATION AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES MAY BE PAID.

-- JOB SEARCH ALLOWANCES TO COVER EXPENSES WHILE LOOKING FOR WORK OUTSIDE OF COMMUTING RANGE. THESE PAYMENTS MAY NOT EXCEED 90 PERCENT OF NECESSARY TRAVEL AND LIVING EXPENSES UP TO A MAXIMUM OF $600.

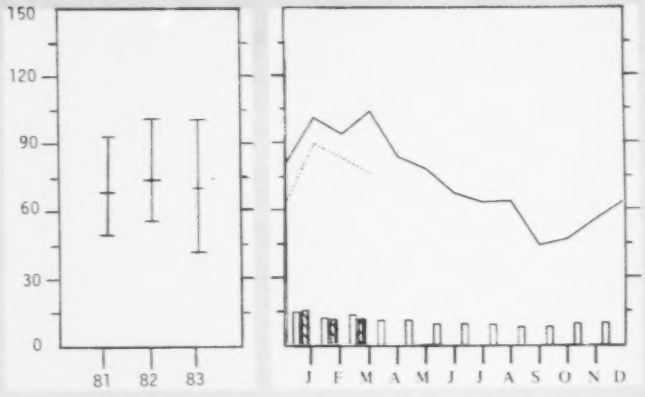
-- RELOCATION ALLOWANCES (90 PERCENT OF MOVING EXPENSES) TO HELP WORKERS MOVE THEIR FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS TO NEW EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE THE COMMUTING AREA. IN ADDITION, WORKERS MAY RECEIVE A LUMP SUM PAYMENT -- NOT TO EXCEED $600 -- TO HELP THEM GET SETTLED.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

UI Initial Claims
in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
in Thousands



-- TRA, GENERALLY AT THE LEVEL OF REGULAR WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) BENEFIT CHECKS, BECOMES PAYABLE WHEN WORKERS HAVE EXHAUSTED THEIR ENTITLEMENT TO ALL OTHER JOBLESS BENEFITS: REGULAR STATE UI, EXTENDED BENEFITS (EB), AND FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION (FSC). TRA IS LIMITED TO 52 TIMES THE TRA WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT MINUS ALL OTHER JOBLESS BENEFITS RECEIVED. AN EXCEPTION TO THIS LIMITATION OCCURS WHEN WORKERS ARE ENROLLED IN APPROVED TRAINING COURSES, IN WHICH CASE THEY MAY BE PAID UP TO 26 ADDITIONAL WEEKS OF TRA.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR TRA, A WORKER MUST HAVE EARNED AT LEAST $30 A WEEK FOR 26 WEEKS IN THE 52-WEEK PERIOD ENDING THE WEEK OF THEIR LAYOFF. NOTE: UP TO 7 WEEKS OF DISABILITY OR OTHER EMPLOYER AUTHORIZED LEAVE MAY BE COUNTED AS QUALIFYING WEEKS OF EMPLOYMENT.

WHO ARE SERVED -- TAA IS FOR WORKERS IN SITUATIONS WHERE INCREASED IMPORTS OF FOREIGN MADE PRODUCTS HAVE CONTRIBUTED IMPORTANTLY TO THEIR LOSS OF A JOB. TO ASSURE THAT THE BENEFITS GO TO SUCH WORKERS, THE LAW REQUIRES THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) TO DETERMINE WHETHER IMPORTS WERE AN IMPORTANT CAUSE OF JOB REDUCTIONS AT A PARTICULAR COMPANY OR SUBDIVISION. THE DEPARTMENT MAKES THIS DETERMINATION IN RESPONSE TO PETITIONS FROM WORKERS WHO HAVE BEEN LAID OFF OR THREATENED WITH LAYOFFS. IF DOL FINDS THAT IMPORTS WERE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR, IT CERTIFIES THE AFFECTED WORKERS IN THAT COMPANY OR SUBDIVISION AS BEING ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR TAA.

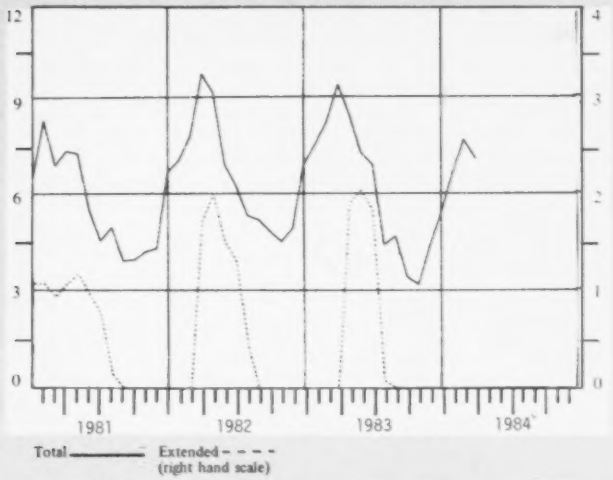
HOW TO FILE PETITIONS -- CERTIFICATION PETITIONS FOR TAA MAY BE FILED BY A GROUP OF THREE OR MORE WORKERS, THEIR UNION, OR AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OR JOB SERVICE OFFICE OF THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

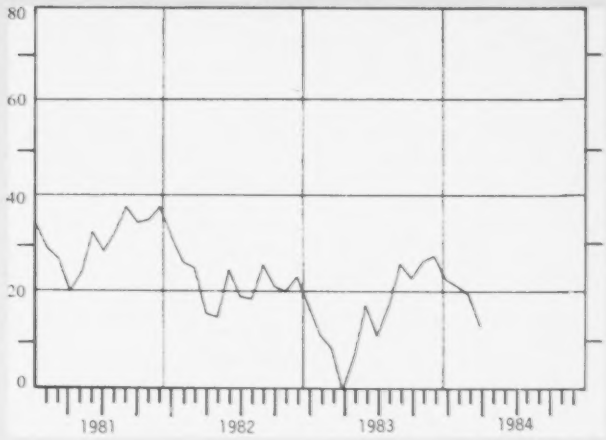
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

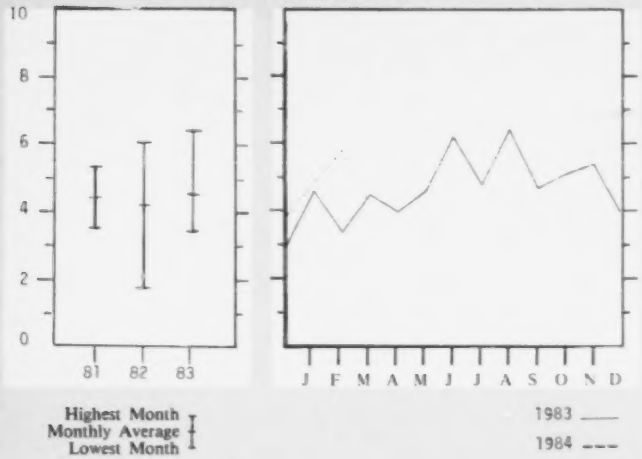
in Thousands

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary 1/	414.0	411.6	402.7	98.0	97.4	92.2	33.5	33.1	32.5
Total Manufacturing	109.0	109.2	106.3	16.6	16.4	16.1	11.4	11.3	10.6
Durable Goods	40.9	40.9	39.1	7.1	6.6	6.2	2.2	2.1	1.8
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	12.9	13.2	12.0	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
Metals and Machinery	16.3	16.0	14.5	5.8	5.7	5.4	1.8	1.8	1.5
Other Durable Goods 3/	11.7	11.7	12.6	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
Nondurable Goods	68.1	68.3	67.2	9.5	9.8	9.9	9.2	9.2	8.8
Food and Kindred Products	8.3	8.3	7.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.8	0.9	0.8
Textile Mill Products	7.2	7.2	6.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.6	1.6	1.5
Apparel	4.9	4.9	4.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.1	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	18.6	18.6	17.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.7	0.6
Leather and Leather Products	18.5	18.8	20.7	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.5
Footwear (except Rubber)	15.5	15.7	17.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.9	2.9	2.9
All Other	3.0	3.1	3.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	10.6	10.5	9.8	4.7	4.8	4.6	2.5	2.4	2.3
Total Nonmanufacturing	305.0	302.4	296.4	81.4	81.0	76.1	22.1	21.8	21.9
Contract Construction	13.4	13.4	12.8	3.8	3.7	3.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Transportation and Public Utilities	17.6	17.5	17.7	5.4	5.4	5.4	1.2	1.2	1.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	89.9	88.2	84.8	26.7	26.9	25.0	7.7	7.6	7.6
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	18.3	18.1	17.5	8.6	8.6	8.1	1.6	1.6	1.6
Service and Other Nonmanufacturing	81.0	80.9	78.6	22.2	22.1	20.7	7.3	7.2	7.2
Government	84.8	84.3	85.0	14.7	14.3	13.7	3.2	3.1	3.2
Federal	18.3	18.3	18.3	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.3	0.2	0.3
State and Local 5/	66.5	66.0	66.7	13.2	12.8	12.2	2.9	2.9	2.9
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/Employment figures relate to full - and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 37, 38; Portland - 32, 37, 38; Lewiston - 25, 32, 37. 4/Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Lewiston - 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39. 5/Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50.

New Applications For Work

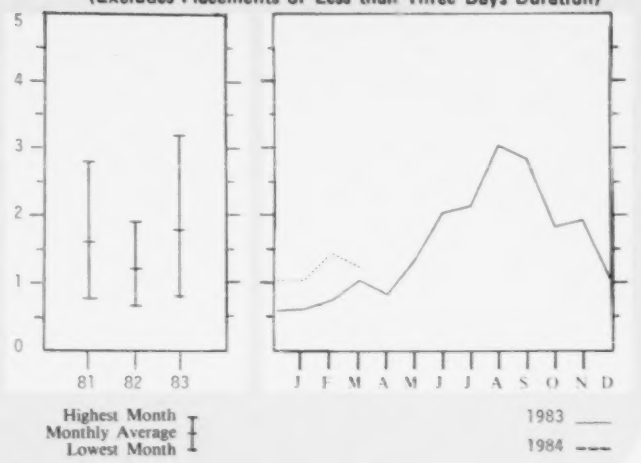
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1983	1982	1981
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$296.76	$314.36	$298.98	37.3	40.2	39.6	$7.83	$7.82	$7.55	$7.61	$7.22	$6.66
Durable Goods	300.66	324.00	320.40	38.3	40.5	39.9	7.85	8.00	8.03	8.04	7.59	6.97
Lumber and Wood Products	278.20	297.14	283.68	38.8	40.1	39.4	7.17	7.41	7.20	7.37	6.87	6.52
Metals and Machinery	298.94	309.07	296.29	39.7	41.1	39.4	7.53	7.52	7.52	7.59	7.15	6.61
Other Durable Goods	332.01	378.68	386.75	35.7	40.2	41.1	9.30	9.42	9.41	9.31	8.84	7.98
Nondurable Goods	294.41	309.17	286.83	37.6	40.1	39.4	7.83	7.71	7.28	7.37	7.00	6.48
Food and Kindred Products	211.20	220.63	225.79	32.0	35.7	36.3	6.60	6.18	6.22	6.10	5.84	5.50
Textile Mill Products	248.88	263.00	220.02	40.6	43.4	38.0	6.13	6.06	5.79	5.87	5.49	5.17
Apparel	181.12	208.68	191.00	32.4	37.6	35.7	5.59	5.55	5.35	5.39	5.23	4.97
Paper and Allied Products	500.64	514.58	482.90	44.7	45.7	45.6	11.20	11.26	10.59	10.95	10.10	9.27
Leather and Leather Products	196.81	211.18	206.09	33.7	36.6	37.0	5.84	5.77	5.57	5.59	5.46	5.10
Other Nondurable Goods	261.52	269.57	257.40	37.2	38.4	39.0	7.03	7.02	6.60	6.60	6.23	5.75
PORTLAND SMSA												
Manufacturing	287.23	297.89	283.13	37.4	39.3	37.7	7.68	7.58	7.51	7.67	7.19	6.49
LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA												
Manufacturing	230.91	246.38	236.73	35.8	38.8	39.0	6.45	6.35	6.07	6.16	5.96	5.57

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	223.5	218.6	213.1
Unemployed	17.7	18.3	19.8
(Percent)	7.9%	8.4%	9.3%
Resident Employed	205.9	200.3	193.3

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec
(1967=100) All Items (CPI-u)	307.3	306.6	293.4	303.5

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.2
Percent Change from Last December	+1.3
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+4.7

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	529.1	514.8	516.0	484.8	469.3	460.5	44.3	45.5	55.5	8.4	8.8	10.8
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor-Brewer LMA	43,500	42,200	43,300	40,500	39,500	39,300	3,000	2,700	4,000	6.9	6.4	9.2
Biddeford-Sanford LMA	33,800	32,700	32,200	30,900	29,800	28,500	2,900	2,900	3,700	8.6	8.9	11.5
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	39,500	38,300	38,300	36,400	35,000	34,200	3,100	3,300	4,100	7.8	8.6	10.7
Portland SMSA	102,200	99,400	95,600	96,800	93,600	88,200	5,400	5,800	7,400	5.3	5.8	7.7
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	29,830	29,020	29,100	27,540	26,730	26,380	2,290	2,290	2,720	7.7	7.9	9.3
Bath-Brunswick	23,600	23,460	24,670	22,070	21,870	22,960	1,530	1,590	1,710	6.5	6.8	6.9
Belfast	12,010	11,230	11,090	9,900	9,490	9,260	2,110	1,740	1,830	17.6	15.5	16.5
Boothbay Harbor Wiscasset	8,000	7,720	7,570	7,120	6,800	6,630	880	920	940	11.0	11.9	12.4
Calais-Eastport	14,210	13,870	14,810	12,400	12,010	12,240	1,810	1,860	2,570	12.7	13.4	17.4
Caribou-Presque Isle	20,830	20,430	20,350	17,750	17,210	17,280	3,080	3,220	3,070	14.8	15.8	15.1
Central Penobscot	3,460	3,510	3,500	3,180	3,250	3,150	280	260	350	8.1	7.4	10.0
Dover-Foxcroft	6,520	6,420	6,520	6,070	5,970	5,860	450	450	660	6.9	7.0	10.1
Ellsworth	19,570	19,000	19,480	17,560	16,980	16,910	2,010	2,020	2,570	10.3	10.6	13.2
Farmington	12,890	12,550	13,520	11,680	11,350	12,300	1,210	1,200	1,220	9.4	9.6	9.0
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,030	4,880	5,030	4,390	4,370	4,360	640	510	670	12.7	10.5	13.3
Greenville	1,510	1,560	1,440	1,420	1,480	1,260	90	80	180	6.0	5.1	12.5
Houlton	4,910	4,820	4,800	4,450	4,300	4,100	460	520	700	9.4	10.8	14.6
Lincoln-Howland	5,810	5,810	5,850	5,390	5,380	5,230	420	430	620	7.2	7.4	10.6
Livermore Falls	6,170	5,940	5,930	5,310	5,060	5,090	860	880	840	13.9	14.8	14.2
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,160	4,040	4,280	3,560	3,440	3,410	600	600	870	14.4	14.9	20.3
Mechanic Falls	2,260	2,280	2,120	1,980	1,940	1,710	280	340	410	12.4	14.9	19.3
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,030	4,920	5,250	4,750	4,670	4,750	280	250	500	5.6	5.1	9.5
Patten-Island Falls	2,130	2,150	2,280	1,940	1,950	1,940	190	200	340	8.9	9.3	14.9
Rockland	18,350	17,430	17,370	16,730	15,690	14,960	1,620	1,740	2,410	8.8	10.0	13.9
Rumford	20,430	20,010	20,830	18,580	18,160	18,450	1,850	1,850	2,380	9.1	9.2	11.4
Sebago Lake Region	11,520	11,280	10,890	10,680	10,380	9,630	840	900	1,260	7.3	8.0	11.6
Skowhegan	21,240	20,520	21,290	18,720	17,860	18,430	2,520	2,660	2,860	11.9	13.0	13.4
Kittery-York	20,110	19,670	18,590	19,310	18,230	17,560	800	1,440	1,030	4.0	7.3	5.5
Southwest Penobscot	8,490	8,110	8,170	7,240	7,010	6,820	1,250	1,100	1,350	14.7	13.6	16.5
Waterville	22,220	21,690	22,010	20,560	19,900	19,660	1,660	1,790	2,350	7.5	8.3	10.7
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,594.1	1,587.2	n/a	1,512.0	1,472.5	n/a	82.1	114.7	n/a	5.2	7.2
Massachusetts	3,002.0	2,986.0	2,939.6	2,826.0	2,797.0	2,704.0	175.0	189.0	235.6	5.8	6.3	8.0
New Hampshire	n/a	501.8	485.0	n/a	476.1	450.7	n/a	25.7	34.3	n/a	5.1	7.1
Rhode Island	476.9	475.9	473.3	442.9	439.0	426.9	34.0	36.9	46.4	7.1	7.8	9.8
Vermont	265.2	264.3	267.5	245.0	244.2	245.5	20.2	20.2	22.0	7.6	7.6	8.2
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	5,822.2	5,752.6	n/a	5,468.3	5,299.6	n/a	353.9	453.0	n/a	6.1	7.9
UNITED STATES 3/	111,828	111,368	109,873	102,770	101,961	97,994	9,057	9,407	11,879	8.1	8.4	10.8

Area Definitions
LMA - Labor Market Area
SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note
n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes
1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
3/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND SMSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	15,230	15,148	19,215	1,824	1,915	2,665	1,008	1,132	1,338
Insured Unemployment Rate *	3.8	3.8	4.9	2.2	2.3	3.4	3.1	3.6	4.3

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Selected Characteristics Of Unemployment Insurance Claimants

REGULAR PROGRAM 1/

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATION

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Professional, Technical, and Managerial	8.0	8.1	9.6
Clerical and Sales	16.6	16.6	17.9
Service	11.2	11.4	9.8
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, and Related	2.3	2.4	2.9
Processing	3.3	3.7	3.5
Machine Trades	11.4	11.4	10.5
Benchwork	9.1	8.8	7.0
Structural Work	22.4	21.8	23.0
Miscellaneous	15.7	15.8	15.8

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Total under 40	57.0	58.3	61.7
Under 22	6.3	6.8	6.7
22-24	10.6	11.2	11.8
25-34	29.8	30.3	32.5
35-39	10.3	10.0	10.7
Total 40 and Over	43.0	41.7	38.3
40-44	7.7	7.9	7.8
45-54	11.8	12.1	13.3
55-64	9.8	9.7	10.8
65 and Over	13.7	12.0	6.4

1/ Data refers to continued claimants who received benefits under the regular state unemployment insurance program.

The Employment Security programs are affiliated with U.S. Employment and Training Administration. Published under Appropriation No. 03444.2

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
Lab 449

MARCH 1984

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

Labor Market Information Services